AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A water separation device ~~characterized in that~~ comprising a tubular member having a lower end and an upper end, a water separation membrane [[is]] provided on a rising surface between [[a]] said lower end and [[an]] said upper end of [[a]] said tubular member, and a water dispersion organic solvent [[is]] filtrated by said water separation membrane to thereby separate water.

2. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to Claim 1, wherein said lower end of said tubular member is ~~on that the lower end is~~ closed, and an inlet for the water dispersion organic solvent is provided at the upper part.

3. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to Claim 2, ~~wherein~~ comprising an outer tube, said tubular member [[is]] being positioned within [[an]] said outer tube and having a discharge outlet of an organic solvent after separation of water at [[the]] a lower part.

4. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to Claim 3, wherein the upper end of the tubular member is formed [[to be]] has a large diameter, and said tubular member is fitted in said outer tube and stopped at the upper end of the outer tube at said large diameter portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to Claims 1 to 4, wherein [[the]] said tubular member has a side surface or bottom surface ~~of said tubular member is~~ formed as a slope toward the lower end which converges on an extreme end, and said water separation membrane is secured to an opening formed in said slope.

6. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to ~~Claims~~ Claim 5, wherein a plurality of said outer tubes are formed as recesses ~~are formed~~ in a plate at intervals, and said tubular member is fitted in said outer tubes.

7. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to ~~Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein said water separation membrane is a hydrophobic and organic solvent insoluble membrane filter.

8. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to ~~Claims~~ Claim 7, wherein said membrane filter is made of Teflon (Registered Trademark).

9. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to ~~Claims~~ Claim 8, wherein the pore size of said membrane filter is 0.1 to 2 μm.

10. (Currently Amended) The water separation device according to ~~Claims 1~~ Claim 3, wherein said tubular member and said outer tube are formed of metal, glass or plastics.

11. (Currently Amended) A water separation method ~~characterized in that a~~ filtrating water dispersion organic solvent ~~is filtrated~~ by [[the]] a water separation membrane provided on a rising surface between a lower end and an upper end of a tubular member [[to]] and thereby ~~separate~~ separating water.

12. (Currently Amended) The water separation method according to Claim 11, ~~wherein~~ comprising formed said tubular member ~~is formed~~ so that [[the]] a lower end thereof is closed and an inlet for [[the]] water dispersion organic solvent is provided at [[the]] an upper part, [[and]] positioning the tubular member ~~is positioned~~ within an outer tube having a sample discharge

outlet at the lower part, and passing the organic solvent after separation of water ~~is caused to pass~~ through from the inside to the outside of said tubular member.

13. (Currently Amended) The water separation method according to Claim 12, ~~wherein the~~ comprising forming a side surface or [[the]] bottom surface [[of]] on said tubular member ~~are formed~~ as ~~a slope~~ sloping toward the lower end which converges on an extreme end, and securing said water separation membrane ~~is secured~~ to an opening formed in said slope.

14. (Currently Amended) The water separation method according to Claim 11, wherein said water separation organic solvent is a reaction liquid obtained from an [[in]] organic chemical reaction or a processed liquid after reaction.